

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 06911 301513Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

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INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-05

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 NEA-09 PA-02 PRS-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9723

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, ENRG, GW

SUBJECT: ASSOCIATED PRESS INTERVIEW WITH AID MINISTER

BAHR

THE FOLLOWING IS AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF AN INTER-
VIEW WITH FEDERAL MINISTER OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION
BAHR BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS ON APRIL 27, 1975

QUESTION: THE PREPARATORY CONFERENCE FOR THE BIG ENERGY

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PAGE 02 BONN 06911 301513Z

CONFERENCE OF OIL PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS AT WHICH AN

ADEQUATE ENERGY SUPPLY WAS TO BE SECURED THROUGH MUTUAL AGREEMENT HAS FAILED. HOW DOES THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT VIEW THE SITUATION WHICH HAS ARISEN AS A RESULT OF THIS BREAKDOWN OF THE PREPARATORY TALKS?

BAHR: THE PARIS PREPARATORY CONFERENCE HAS ONLY BEEN INTERRUPTED; ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE WILLING TO CONTINUE THE DIALOGUE. IN PARIS, BOTH SIDES WERE ABLE TO OBTAIN A GREATER CLARITY ABOUT EACH OTHERS' POSITIONS; NOW THEY HAVE TIME FOR FURTHER REFLECTION. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS INTERESTED IN A COMPROMISE. THIS MEANS: WE ARE IN FAVOR OF A RESUMPTION OF THE PREPARATORY CONFERENCE, AND WE ARE PREPARING OURSELVES FOR IT.

QUESTION: WHAT IS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S VIEW OF THE DEMAND OF SOME PRODUCER STATES AND THIRD COUNTRIES THAT A LARGE CONFERENCE FOCUS NOT ONLY ON ENERGY MATTERS, BUT ALSO INCLUDE RAW MATERIALS SUPPLY ISSUES?

BAHR: EVER SINCE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAVE EXISTED THESE COUNTRIES HAVE DEMANDED A JUST PRICE FOR THEIR RAW MATERIALS. IT CANNOT BE EXPECTED THAT THE OIL COUNTRIES WHICH ARE ALSO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WILL GIVE UP THIS DEMAND. ONE MUST SEE REALITIES. ONE MUST DEAL WITH ALL THREE PROBLEMS: ENERGY - - RAW MATERIALS - - AID QUESTIONS. ONE DOES NOT NEED TO ARGUE ABOUT WHAT WEIGHT TO ASSIGN TO EACH QUESTION - - AFTER ALL, THEY ARE ALL INTER-RELATED.

QUESTION: WHAT STEPS WILL THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NOW UNDERTAKE ON ITS OWN IN ORDER TO AVOID THE DANGER OF A NEW CONFRONTATION BETWEEN OIL PRODUCERS AND INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES?

BAHR: OUR DELIBERATIONS HAVE NOT YET BEEN COMPLETED. ALL I CAN SAY NOW IS THAT WE SHALL BE ACTIVE; I CANNOT SAY AS YET IN DETAIL WHAT STEPS WILL BE UNDERTAKEN.

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PAGE 03 BONN 06911 301513Z

QUESTION: DO YOU SEE A DANGER THAT THE OIL PRODUCERS MIGHT ATTEMPT TO EXERT PRESSURE ON THE INDUSTRIAL STATES WITH THE AID OF A PRICE INCREASE? AFTER THE TALKS WHICH FEDERAL MINISTER GENSCHER HAD IN SAUDI ARABIA THE WEEK BEFORE LAST, THIS POSSIBILITY SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN PUSHED WAY BACK AT LEAST AS FAR AS THIS RICHEST ARAB OIL COUNTRY IS CONCERNED.

BAHR: I DO NOT SEE THIS DANGER TODAY. FOR EVERYONE
KNOWS THAT IN VIEW OF THE GROWING MUTUAL INTERDEPEND-
ENCE, WORLD-WIDE SOLUTIONS CAN BE REACHED ONLY THROUGH
MUTUALITY OF INTEREST. THE TALKS OF OUR FOREIGN
MINISTER WITH HIS ARAB PARTNERS HAVE UNDERLINED THE
NECESSITY OF STRIVING FOR SETTLEMENTS TO THE BENEFIT
OF ALL CONCERNED. IN THIS REGARD WE SHOULD NOT FORGET
THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH POSSESS NEITHER OIL, NOR RAW
MATERIALS, NOR INDUSTRY.
HILLENBRAND

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